Joey Lawyer

Immigration Assignment

My family history is made up of my mostly Italian heritage but I am also Irish and German but I have some Nova Scotia in me also. A lot of my heritage is sort of a mystery. First part is my dad’s side of the family, which is where my German and Irish side comes from. But sadly my grandfather does not like to talk about his family so I do not know a lot besides that my grandfather Donald Lawyer’s dad came over from Germany and his wife came from Ireland. That’s all I know about my grandfathers side of the family. As for my grandmother on that side, her family came over to America from Italy. They came to America because they heard that America was the land of opportunity and decided to immigrate to America on a boat from Italy.

My mother’s side I know a little more about. My great grandfather was Dominic Palma and he was born in Naples, Sicily into a wealthy family. But his wealthy merchants parents died and the family he stayed with after, which had control over his families money drained it all so my great grandfather had no money left. Dominic came to America because he had no reason to stay in Naples, so he went to America to get a better life for himself. Dominic came over on the boat from Sicily with only fifteen dollars in his pocket. Then my great grandmother Margarett lived in Palermo, Sicily till she was a teenager. Then one day Margarett witnessed a mafia hit and this meant she had to leave the country or she was dead. So the Sicilian government sent her and her family to America to save her from the mafia which would have killed her if she had stayed in Sicily. My great grandparents met because they lived near each other and they had my grandfather Anthony.

I have discovered a lot of great things about my family today that I did not know before. I am very proud of my heritage and all my roots. I only wish I could find out more about my dads side of the family. But I am happy to be who I am because of the hardships my family went through to get to America.